



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/836,512	04/17/2001	Helen J. Chemtob	P-6175PROV	6586
23772	7590	08/31/2005	EXAMINER	
STEPHEN CHRISTOPHER SWIFT SWIFT LAW OFFICE SUITE 200 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314-3451			CHOWDHURY, AZIZUL Q	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2145	
DATE MAILED: 08/31/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Stephen Christopher Swift on 12/29/2005.

The following are the examiner's amendments to the claims received on May 2, 2005.

Please amend the following claims:

- For claims 2, 6, 8, 9, 11 and 12, please change "claim 47" to "claim 1."
- For claims 13 and 14, please change "claim 11" to "claim 7."
- For claim 17, please change "claim 48" to "claim 12."
- For claims 19, 21-28, please change "claim 49" to "claim 15."
- For claims 30, 33-34 and 36-40, please change "claim 52" to "claim 27."
- For claim 48, please change "claim 15" to "claim 11."
- For claim 49, please change "claim 18" to "claim 14."
- For claim 50, please change "claim 29" to "claim 24."
- For claim 51, please change "claim 50" to "claim 25."
- For claim 52, please change "claim 51" to "claim 26."

Please cancel claims 44, 45, 46 and 47.

In addition, please replace claim 1 with the claim 1 listed below.

1. (Currently Amended) A server for communicating content between a group of networked client computers over a communications medium and displaying communications flows identifying a content originator and a content receiver, said server comprising:
  - a memory;
  - a processor storing and retrieving instructions from said memory;
  - a network interface operably connecting said processor to the communications medium;
  - a communications module receiving content from an originating computer and transmitting said content to at least one target computer;
  - a graphical communication flow module integrated with said communications module and providing to each of the client computers a graphical representation of a group of networked computers, said graphical communication flow module graphically depicting communication flows showing the originating and target computer users corresponding to each content transmission by said communications interface, and having means to graphically depict the intended target of a communication flow in a manner visible to users of all the computers connected to a virtual group;

wherein the graphical communications flow module has means to graphically depict that a communications flow is intended by an originator to

target all computer users connected to the group of networked computers who are participating a virtual meeting of the virtual group;

wherein the graphical communications flow module has means to graphically depict the originators and targets of more than one communications flow occurring simultaneously between computer users participating in the group meeting;

wherein the graphical communications flow module has means to enable the originating users to graphically distinguish between communications flows that they intend to be primary and communications flows that they intend to be secondary;

wherein the graphical communications flow module has means to enable an originator to transmit a hidden communications flow to only one target, while indicating the originator and target of the hidden communications flow in a manner perceptible to all users participating in the group meeting.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Azizul Choudhury whose telephone number is (571) 272-3909. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jason Cardone can be reached on (571) 272-3933. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

AC



Patrice Winder  
PATRICE WINDER  
PRIMARY EXAMINER